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WHAT'S YOUR MAD MEN DRINK?
PAGE 26

DON



JOAN



BETTY



Edmonton metro



THE TOKYO LOOK
Page 25



Your essential daily news | THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 2015

High 8°C/Low 1°C Slushy



- 38 deaths in Edmonton, 2014
- 88,000 pills seized, 2014
- 2,041 pills seized in latest bust

"We believe that there are probably pill presses in Edmonton."
Coverage, page 8

Fentanyl scourge



ALBERTA LAW ENFORCEMENT RESPONSE TEAMS

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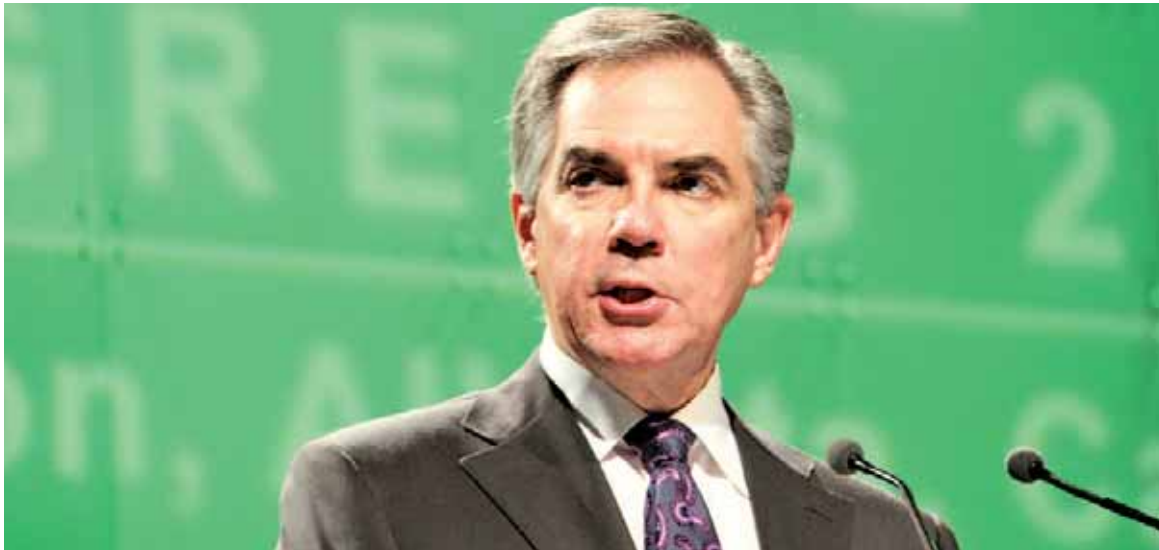
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Premier Jim Prentice speaks to the World Heavy Oil Congress at the Shaw Conference Centre on Wednesday. Prentice says the health levy he will announce in Thursday's budget is not going to be an undue burden on lower income Albertans.

RYAN TUMILTY/METRO

Health levy is coming

ECONOMY

Premier says tax won't hurt low-income Albertans



Ryan Tumilty
Metro | Edmonton

Premier Jim Prentice said Wednesday that the health levy he will announce in Thursday's budget is not going to be an undue burden on lower income Albertans and will go ahead, regardless of

its popularity.

Health premiums polled as one of the least popular choices when the government surveyed Albertans recently about how it should address its revenue shortfalls, with just 27 per cent of respondents endorsing the idea.

The idea was less supported than creating a sales tax, long a no-go proposal in Alberta, which drew support from 32 per cent of respondents.

A graduated income tax in place of the current flat tax was much more popular, at 58 per cent, while increasing corporate taxes, which Prentice has ruled out, was supported

by 70 per cent of respondents.

Prentice said the province's dire fiscal situation does not give the province the luxury of choosing more popular options.

"We clearly face a series of very tough choices," he said, following a speech to the World Heavy Oil Congress in Edmonton on Wednesday. "There are no easy solutions in any of this."

He said the new health levy would drive home the cost of the actual system.

"There needs to be a connection between health-care expenses and people having the information about how

we are using the health-care system," he said.

Prentice emphasized that he was aiming for a more "progressive" system than the old premiums, which were criticized because they charged all people the same amount regardless of income.

Those premiums were cancelled in 2009.

"In our province, the former health-care premium was essentially a payroll tax; it was viewed as a very regressive structure and one that was actually quite punitive on the economy," he said.

More coverage, page 11.

YOUR SAY

Health premiums or sales tax: Which do you prefer?



Neither. The government always puts this on the back of the little guy. I don't see corporate taxes going up

Joe Bradshaw, 51



I'd prefer a health care premium rather than a PST. I spend hundreds just on groceries each month and I couldn't add a sales tax to my budget

Dorothy Whalen, 40



Health care doesn't need more money, so I'd take the sales tax. We're due for one anyway. My parents used to pay for my health care premium, so I didn't notice it

Jim Bird, 50



I'd rather go with the sales tax. It's more fair, and I think we'll eventually have one anyway. But one way or another, we'll pay

Nicole Jee, 32

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POLITICS

Bhullar doesn't deny seeking phone bills

An Alberta cabinet minister isn't denying that he approached opposition parties about filing a freedom-of-information request for the cellphone bills racked up by one of his own colleagues.

Repeated questions have been raised in recent weeks about what role MLA Manmeet Bhullar, then the Service Alberta minister, had in seeing that \$20,243 in overseas phone call and data charges accrued by former deputy premier Thomas Lukaszuk came to light.

Asked whether he approached both the Wildrose and Liberals about filing a FOIP request for the bills, Bhullar, now the infrastructure minister, responded: "In politics, there's always a lot of rumours and we often shoot the breeze. That doesn't make it acceptable."

The questions were prompted after multiple non-Tory legislature sources said they were approached about the cellphone bills. Some identified Bhullar as being the one who broached the subject, while others would only say it was a senior cabinet minister.

Lukaszuk's bill, accrued in 2012 while he was overseas, did eventually land in the mailbox of an Edmonton Sun reporter, but that development prompted a police investigation as it was revealed that a Calgary resident's name was fraudulently used to ship the documents.

Police have since said the file has been put on hold pending any new evidence. However, the provincial privacy commissioner has launched her own probe as the cellphone bills contained sensitive information that would have been withheld through a proper freedom-of-information request process.

JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO
WITH FILES FROM DARREN KRAUSE

Coalition urges bike lane and signage at MacEwan

INFRASTRUCTURE

University has yet to respond to letter



Stephanie Dubois
Metro | Edmonton

A cycling advocacy group is pushing MacEwan University to build a bike lane on its property to address what students and staff have said are safety issues for cyclists and pedestrians using the 109 Street and 104 Avenue area to get to campus.

"Right now, that's a very dangerous area for cyclists," said Conrad Nobert with the Edmonton Bike Coalition, which sent a letter to the school asking for action on the issue, including a bike lane. "People are rationally choosing to ride illegally on the sidewalk because riding in the area is dangerous."

With more cars using 104 Avenue each year, cyclists say the road is too busy for them to safely ride on. According to the most recent city figures from 2013, 104 Avenue west of 105 Street sees more than 32,000



Conrad Nobert, a member of the Edmonton Bike Coalition, has sent a letter to MacEwan U asking for bike infrastructure. TOPHER SEGUIN/FOR METRO

vehicles a day, with the stretch of road seeing about 37,500 vehicles a day west of 109 Street.

Space near the north sidewalks on 104 Avenue, near the downtown campus, is the focus of the group, which is asking that part of the land be "repurposed as a bike lane at little expense," reads the letter. Nobert

argued in his letter that "with some signage, paint and a few curb cuts at the driveways," cyclists could get to the campus and around that busy intersection more efficiently.

Many students and staff spoke out strongly about their frustrations and the dangers caused by a lack of bike infra-

structure during the "Our Bike" photo mosaic in November. MacEwan's administration said it didn't want to comment before replying to the coalition's letter, dated March 10, which a spokesperson said will be sent shortly.

Numbers weren't readily available on how many students at MacEwan are bike commut-

66

It's not the loudest discussion by students, but it's definitely something on the radar.

Cameron McCoy, head of the MacEwan University students' union

ers, but Cameron McCoy, head of the school's students' association, said there's been a growing push for bike infrastructure on campus for years.

"Every year, more and more students live in the downtown core and more and more, they're commuting by bike," he said. "It's not the loudest discussion by students, but it's definitely something on the radar."

Coalition members are continuing to advocate for the structures at MacEwan, even while the city works on its 102 Avenue protected bike route.

"It's in their best interest and best interest of students and staff there," Nobert said. "For a very small investment, they can make students and staff there safe and comfortable."

+ COMMUTING

Cycling becoming the norm

It's not all about cars at MacEwan University, at least according to the school's sustainability department.

A fall 2014 survey by the school revealed that more students and staff are getting to the school on two wheels, with about 35 per

cent of university staff taking their bike to work, even in the winter.

The Edmonton Bike Coalition has taken notice of the growing numbers.

In its fall 2014 bike infrastructure campaign, the advocacy group received more than 350 responses

from both students and staff at the post-secondary school.

"Cycling rates are high and growing in and around the MacEwan City Centre Campus," said the coalition's Conrad Nobert in a letter to the school.

"Furthermore, once the

planned 102 Avenue bike route is constructed, the campus will be in the unique position of being situated near the crossroads of Edmonton's two most important bike routes (102 Avenue and the Railtown bike path that connects to the High Level Bridge)."

The school's sustainability department advocates for other modes of transportation for commuting to the downtown campus, including public transit.

Recently, it even started its own car-share program on campus.

STEPHANIE DUBOIS/METRO

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Uber facing its first trial date

INJUNCTION

City wants firm off the road as it works on new bylaws



Ryan Tumilty
Metro | Edmonton

Uber will face its first-ever day in court against a municipality in Edmonton Thursday as the city attempts to get an injunction against the rideshare company.

The injunction the city seeks will be heard in front of a Queen's Bench Justice and could take the company off the road while the city works on new bylaws.

Chris, a driver for the company who did not want his last name used, said it would be a shame if the company can't operate.

"I have yet to come across an Edmontonian who thinks that Uber is a not a good alternative to the taxis," he said, adding he is seeing a growing number of customers embrace the service.

"They're just consistently blown away at how convenient and friendly and easy the service is."

But Jasbir Gill, president of the Edmonton Taxi Association, said he doesn't believe the company is gaining a foothold in the area yet.

"They have not been able to attract most of the customers, because people understand that going without proper insurance is a very risky game,"

+ BACKGROUND

Court dates

Toronto has also sought an injunction against Uber, but the city's court date is still a few months away.

Edmonton has fined individual drivers since the service launched, but if tomorrow's proposed injunction is successful, those fines could go beyond drivers.

METRO

he said. "They're not having a significant effect on the regular taxi industry."

Gill said even though Uber does not have a major market share he hopes the court grants Edmonton an injunction tomorrow, because taxi drivers can't keep with an unlicensed and unregulated service.

"They will be very aggressive if they are allowed further," he said. "They are not on a level playing field."

“They will be very aggressive if they are allowed further ... They are not on a level playing field.”

Jasbir Gill,
President of the Edmonton Taxi Association

COURT

4 things about Uber vs. Edmonton

1. What's the city looking for?

In the injunction filed in February, the city is asking the court for a declaration that Uber is operating a tax brokerage and that it's doing so outside the city's bylaws. It also wants the company to stop recruiting drivers.

2. What's Uber's position?

Uber says it's a technology company that connects riders

with drivers and not a taxi brokerage and shouldn't be subject to the city's rules.

3. What else is the city doing?

The city has fined individual drivers for operating a taxi without a licence, but has found that its bylaw officers' accounts are deleted shortly after any fine is issued, making it difficult for the city to enforce the rules

4. Does the city still intend to write new bylaws?

Yes. The city is working on new bylaws that would allow rideshare companies like Uber or Lyft and Sidecar to operate, and says the injunction is separate from that effort. The city asked Uber to come off the road voluntarily while the new laws are being written, but the company declined.

RYAN TUMILTY/METRO



Uber will have its day in court Thursday as the city seeks an injunction to prevent the company, which offers a ride-sharing service, from operating in Edmonton. TOPHER SEGUIN/METRO EDMONTON

IN BRIEF

Khadr optimistic about bail

Lawyers for former Guantanamo Bay inmate Omar Khadr say he's optimistic, but not getting his hopes up, about getting out on bail. Following a two-day hearing, an Edmonton judge said she needs time to make a decision on the "high priority" case.

Court of Queen's Bench Justice June Ross must

first decide if she has the authority to grant bail to a Canadian appealing a conviction by a foreign court. If she finds she does — and if she agrees that Khadr should be released — lawyers are to return to court to argue his bail conditions.

Ross gave no indication as to how long she will take to make a ruling.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Cat's owner found

A cat lost six years ago will soon be reunited with her owner in Leduc after a vet in Brockville, Ont., that found it noticed a faded tattoo on its ear that was then traced to an Edmonton veterinary clinic.

The owner was attending school in Ontario when she lost the cat.

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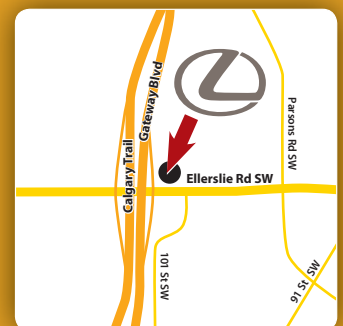
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Edmonton thought to be production and supply site

CRIME

ALERT seizes 2,000 fentanyl pills, known as 'greenies'

Lucy Haines
For Metro | Edmonton

"You can look at each of those 2,000 pills we seized as 2,000 bullets," said Insp. Darcy Strang with the Alberta Law Enforcement Response Teams (ALERT) on Wednesday.

On the table in Edmonton, beside the methamphetamine and the cocaine also seized in the bust, was a bag of tiny green pills made to look like OxyContin, a popular street drug among recreational drug users, but made from deadly fentanyl.

Aside from the startling number of fentanyl pills seized, what made Wednesday's police press conference most noteworthy is that the bust is part of a growing list of facts that point to Edmonton as a production and distribution point for fentanyl



Fentanyl pills mislabeled as OxyContin are seen in this handout photo. Police say organized crime groups have been sending the drug through B.C. to Alberta and Saskatchewan using hidden compartments in vehicles. HANDOUT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

pills, known on the street as "greenies." Strang said police believe the fentanyl is coming from China or possibly Mexico in powdered or liquid form and then is pressed into pills.

"We believe that there are probably pill presses in Edmonton and area," he said.

Strang added that along with charging five people with 30 drug-related charges in this latest bust, ALERT also seized three

SUVs with custom-made compartments.

Strang said he believes drugs are being transported between B.C. and Alberta and at least as far east as Saskatchewan.

In January, police in Alberta and Saskatchewan seized more than 3,000 fentanyl pills combined in a raid that targeted the Hells Angels.

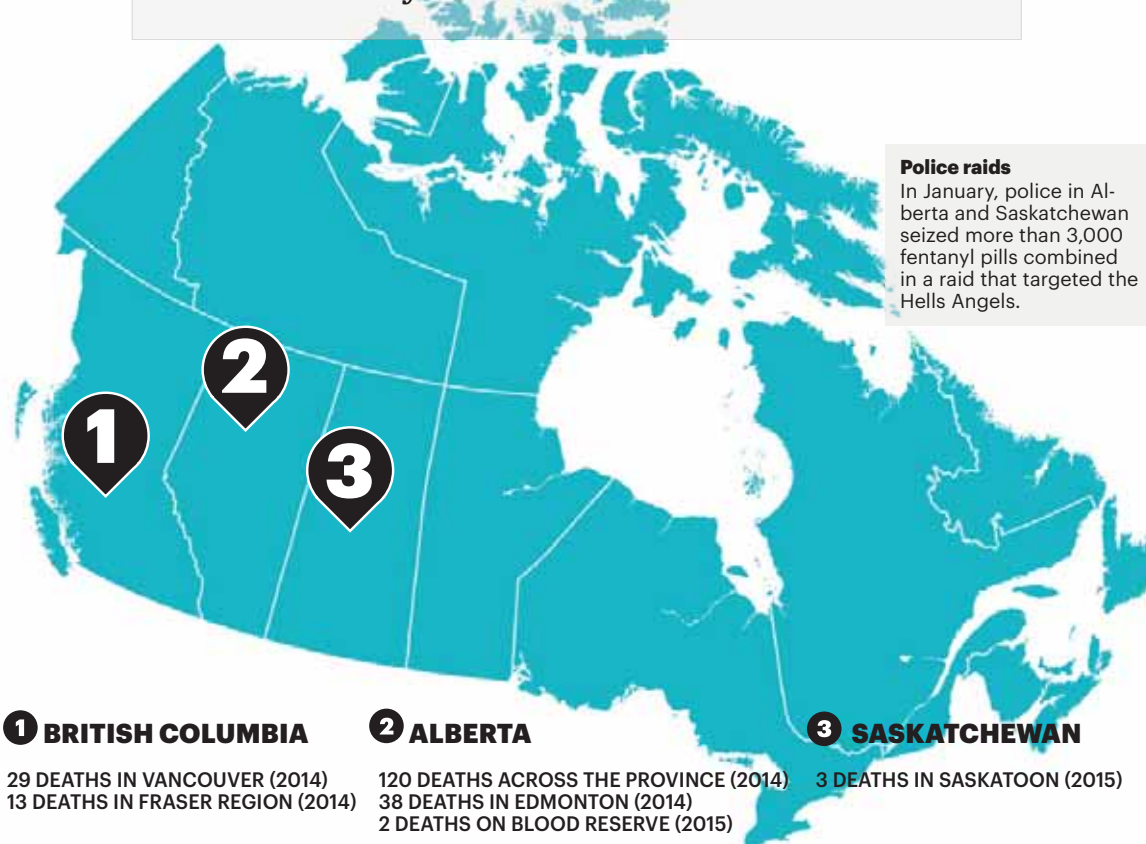
Earlier this month, health officials revealed that more than 100

deaths in Alberta in 2014 were linked to fentanyl overdoses.

Last week, two people died on the Blood Reserve in southern Alberta after ingesting fentanyl at a birthday party.

"Our target is organized crime, and anyone selling these pills is on our radar," said Edmonton Police Insp. Darren Derko. "If it has a nickname, and we're seeing it on Edmonton streets, then it's already a problem."

The trail of a deadly high Fentanyl's toll in western Canada



Police raids

In January, police in Alberta and Saskatchewan seized more than 3,000 fentanyl pills combined in a raid that targeted the Hells Angels.

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Fare evasion rises, but new rules seek to reduce conflict

TRANSIT

Officers to use discretion when issuing tickets



Stephanie Dubois
Metro|Edmonton

Edmonton transit peace officers handed out more tickets for fare evasion in 2014 than in 2013, but are also using more discretion in fining passengers on the city's buses and trains.

In 2014, roughly 3.2 per cent of 345,000 riders checked by transit peace officers were issued the \$250 fine for fare evasion; that's slightly up from the 2.9 per cent of riders fined back in 2013.

"The majority of our ridership are very law-abiding;

They pay for their monthly bus passes, they pay for their tickets," said James Ewatski, acting security operations co-ordinator with Edmonton transit. "It's a small minority of people who want to take a free ride."

Fare evasion can be a costly business for transit authorities. Recent figures from Metro Vancouver show that transit system loses about \$18 million a year due to fare evasion. Edmonton transit officials didn't readily have the information for the local impact.

Just who is and isn't fined for fare evasion is at the discretion of peace officers, and Ewatski said they work to educate people on the necessity to pay for tickets.

"They also exercise good judgment when giving people fines," he said.

Edmonton Transit has recently participated in a new joint partnership that gives

homeless youth transit passes to help them avoid confrontations with police.

"We're certainly going to encourage and assist in executing that plan and project," said Ewatski.

Meanwhile, city council is once again examining hiring six additional peace officers for the transit system.

The item was before city committee Wednesday, with city officials emphasizing the need for the officers to handle the increasing number of calls on a system with growing ridership and newly opening routes.

Charlie Stolte, transit manager with the city, said officers can still do their job once the Metro Line LRT opens, but more help is always beneficial.

"I'm assured ... that they can manage what they have but the more resources we have, the better," he told councillors.



Paying for a ticket to board transit is one way riders can avoid the \$250 fine. TOPHER SEGUIN/FOR METRO

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4

THINGS TO WATCH FOR IN THURSDAY'S BUDGET

The province will deliver what's widely believed will be a lean budget today, as Alberta deals with sunken oil prices. We've taken a look at four things you should be watching for as the province outlines its fiscal priorities. JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO

HEALTH-CARE FEES

1 HOW MUCH WILL ALBERTANS BE DINGED FOR HEALTH CARE?

Premier Jim Prentice dropped a big reveal in his televised speech Tuesday by stating Albertans will be asked to "contribute directly" to the health system.

The revelation has prompted outcry from the opposition, who point to long emergency-room waits and shoddy infrastructure as proof that the province shouldn't be charging more for the service provided.

What remains a mystery is exactly how much will be charged and whether the fee will apply to all.

POST-SECONDARY

2 POST-SECONDARY CUTS PART-DEUX IN THE FUTURE?

Warnings of a multibillion-dollar shortfall have rung all too familiar for post-secondary advocates, who fear they could be in store for another massive cut after taking a nine per cent hit in once-promised Campus Alberta funding in 2013.

Talk of "holding the line" on spending from the premier in a televised address Tuesday hasn't diminished fears much. As evidence of the repercussions of 2013's cuts, both the University of Calgary and University of Alberta still are three per cent short of the funding they received in 2012-13.

TRANSIT

3 IS VALLEY LINE LRT FUNDING ON TRACK?

A year ago, the province's commitment of \$600 million to Edmonton's Valley Line LRT project to Mill Woods finally got the project on track. The money, \$400 million in grants and \$200 million in an interest-free loan, is critical to the \$1.8-billion project moving forward.

The province hasn't said anything specifically about the project since, but could delay some of the funding, spreading out the build over five years instead of the current planned four.

EDUCATION

4 WILL MONEY KEEP UP WITH STUDENT GROWTH?

The province has continued to put more money into primary education, but not at the rate of student growth.

Last year saw an overall increase of 3.2 per cent in educational spending, but the actual per-student grant from the province remained flat.

Student growth is expected to simmer a bit in light of the economic downturn, but advocacy groups have said even a zeroing of funding would amount to a cut.



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QUEBEC

Abortion clinics to maintain service: premier

The Quebec government will not limit access to abortion clinics, Premier Philippe Couillard repeated several times on Wednesday.

Montreal Le Devoir reported that quotas would be imposed on doctors under proposed legislation and could possibly lead to the closure of some abortion clinics.

It cited a ministerial working document that indicated

abortion would not be considered a medical priority.

But Couillard told the national assembly Bill 20 would actually increase access to health services, including abortion.

"There is absolutely no question of limiting in any way — directly or indirectly — access by Quebec women to abortions," the premier said.

"It's the result of a long

battle, it's a part of our society that we will not change."

A Montreal women's health centre said it interpreted a draft regulation in the bill to mean that Health Minister Gaetan Barrette intends to limit the number of abortions practised by Quebec doctors.

But Barrette told reporters that was an erroneous interpretation and that access to abortion will not be

restricted.

Couillard also pointed out that the regulation would be the subject of consultations and people will have a chance to voice their opinion.

There were 25,899 abortions in Quebec in 2011-12.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Suspended senator Patrick Brazeau is on trial for charges of assault and sexual assault. SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Witness hit Brazeau first, says defence

COURT

Suspended senator's trial to resume next week



Joe Lofaro
Metro|Ottawa

The woman at the centre of the sexual assault trial involving Patrick Brazeau instigated the dispute by hitting him with her clothing and hands in his bedroom, a defence lawyer said in court Wednesday.

On the third day of the suspended senator's criminal trial his lawyer, Gerard Larocque, challenged the complainant's story of how the Feb. 7, 2013, incident started in Brazeau's Gatineau, Que., home.

"I'm going to suggest that during the moment Mr. Brazeau was talking on the phone in the bedroom you hit Mr. Brazeau with your hands, with your bra," said Larocque.

"It's completely false," the woman replied through an interpreter.

"I did not hit him upstairs."

Larocque suggested Wednesday the reason she acknowledged not having held onto the bra and the shirt the entire time was because she had actually been hitting him with the bra while she and Brazeau were arguing in the bedroom.

She denied the claim.

The woman, who cannot be identified due to a publication ban, told a different story on Monday when she told the court he told her to leave his house without letting her dress.

According to her, he struck her from behind, pushed her down the stairs as she held onto the banister, and sexually assaulted her on the main floor that morning.

Several photos showing bruises on her arms and legs as well as scratches on her back were entered as evidence in the trial on Monday.

The woman's bra, ripped shirt, and a pair of her jeans missing a button are also part of the Crown prosecutor's evidence.

Brazeau has pleaded not guilty to his charges of sexual assault and assault, which caused him to be booted from the Conservative caucus.

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Canadian Al Jazeera English journalist Mohamed Fahmy pauses during an interview with The Associated Press in Cairo, Thursday, Feb. 19. HASSAN AMMAR/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Fahmy braces for 'nightmare' trial

EGYPT

Final verdict months away, journalist laments

A Canadian journalist undergoing his second trial in Egypt on widely derided terror charges steered himself for an "excruciating" wait Wednesday after a judge ordered his case adjourned

until the end of next month.

Mohamed Fahmy, who has been fighting for more than a year to clear his name and return to Canada, said the long gap between proceedings contradicts all suggestions that Egypt wants to expedite his case.

"This nightmare of a trial seems that it will extend for many more months to come before we see a final verdict," Fahmy told The Canadian Press. "It seems like the judge is really taking his time."

The 40-year-old was working for satellite news broadcaster Al Jazeera English when he and two colleagues were arrested in Cairo in December 2013.

They were charged with airing falsified footage intended to damage national security and being part of the outlawed Muslim Brotherhood, which is now considered a terrorist group in Egypt. The trio insisted they were simply doing their jobs.

After a trial that was internationally criticized as a sham,

Fahmy was sentenced to seven years in prison but a successful appeal resulted in a retrial being ordered.

One of his colleagues — Australian Peter Greste — was abruptly released in February under a law which allows for the deportation of foreigners convicted of crimes, but Fahmy and his Egyptian co-worker Baher Mohamed remained in prison. They were granted bail after their retrial began.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

WINNIPEG

Police didn't protect teen: aboriginal leader

Canada's top aboriginal leader is accusing police of failing to protect a missing 15-year-old girl in the hours before she was last seen alive.

Perry Bellegarde, national chief of the Assembly of First Nations, said Winnipeg police didn't do their job when they came into contact with Tina Fontaine days before her body was pulled from the Red River wrapped in a bag.

Fontaine was in a vehicle pulled over by two officers more than a week after she was reported missing from foster care last August, but she was not taken into custody.

The Winnipeg Police Service said Tuesday neither of the officers will face criminal charges. One has been suspended without pay; the other is on paid administrative leave while the disciplinary process unfolds.

"They should have done their job," Bellegarde said following a speech in Winnipeg on Wednesday. "They are there to serve and protect our people."

Fontaine's death touched a nerve across the country and reignited calls for a national inquiry into nearly 1,200 missing and murdered aboriginal women. Families of some of those women, along with volunteers, took to the Red River in their own boats to



We've got to make sure we learn from the past and not make the same mistakes going forward.

National chief of the Assembly of First Nations
Perry Bellegarde

dredge the water in the hope of finding answers police have been unable to provide.

There is a growing frustration with the justice system's approach to missing and murdered aboriginal women, Bellegarde said. The way Fontaine's disappearance was handled is "not accepted in today's society," he said.

"We've got to make sure we learn from the past and not make the same mistakes going forward," Bellegarde said. "When it comes to missing and murdered indigenous women and girls, they're equally as important and valuable. Their lives are equally as important as everybody else's. They should not be forgotten and put to the side."

THE CANADIAN PRESS



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SASKATCHEWAN

Stripping switch-up

Saskatchewan Premier Brad Wall says his government is reversing its decision to allow licensed strip clubs because it's concerned about human trafficking and sexual exploitation.

He says he believes it was a mistake to change provincial liquor laws to allow partial stripping in bars.

"If, by this decision, we have inadvertently allowed for even a marginal increase in the chance for human trafficking, it's the wrong decision," Wall said Wednesday.

day. "Let's make sure we're not allowing any opportunity for organized crime to increase its footprint."

Before 2014, Saskatchewan law prevented stripping in venues where alcohol was sold. Last year, those regulations changed and dancers could strip down to underwear.

Wall said there wasn't a particular catalyst that prompted the government to revert back, only that he had been mulling over the issue.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

U.S. nudged Canada to expand ISIL air campaign, Kenney says

IRAQ MISSION

Expansion would include airstrikes in Syria

The United States made it clear Canada's precision-guided bomb arsenal and expertise would be welcome in Syria, Jason Kenney said Wednesday — a narrow glimmer of clarity in the Harper government's murky reasons for expanding its Middle East campaign to include the war-torn region.

The defence minister would not go so far as to say the Americans asked Canada to expand the scope of its airstrikes outside of Iraq, but did indicate that Washington left the option open for consideration.

"Let me put it this way: We have conversations back and forth and they made it clear that they thought our precision-guided munitions would be helpful," Kenney said.

The U.S. and some of its Arab



The Syrian Embassy sits vacant in Ottawa on Tuesday. SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

allies — notably Jordan and the United Arab Emirates — are already conducting airstrikes in Syria against the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant.

Britain, France and Australia are also conducting airstrikes, but not in Syria. The Harper gov-

ernment had initially restricted Canadian warplanes to Iraq only, but that changed Tuesday with the introduction of a motion to expand and extend the mission until March 30, 2016.

Kenney, Foreign Affairs Minister Rob Nicholson and Prime

Minister Stephen Harper faced a storm of demands Wednesday to justify the bombing of Syria under international law. In the Commons, Harper leaned on the U.S. argument — made to the United Nations — that Syrian dictator Bashar Assad had

“Once again, the government is pursuing this action on exactly the same legal basis as its allies.”

PM Stephen Harper

lost control of his territory, that ISIL represents a clear imminent threat to its neighbours, and that the Iraqi government specifically asked Washington to take action. Kenney took it a step further, saying he has a legal opinion from the military's judge advocate general justifying the airstrikes under Article 51 of the UN charter.

That provision says a country can take individual or collective self-defence action if a member is under armed attack, but the invocation of that clause is usually followed by an international resolution authorizing force.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

STRIP CLUBS

Sask. premier cites trafficking concerns as reason for about-face

Saskatchewan Premier Brad Wall says his government is reversing its decision to allow licensed strip clubs because it's concerned about human trafficking and sexual exploitation.

He says he believes it was a mistake to change provincial liquor laws to allow partial stripping in bars.

"If, by this decision, we have inadvertently allowed for even a marginal increase in the chance for human trafficking, it's the wrong decision," Wall said.

Before 2014, Saskatchewan law prevented stripping in venues where alcohol was sold.

Last year, those regulations changed and dancers could strip down to underwear.

Don Verstraeten owns the Codette Hotel near Nipawin, east of Prince Albert, where strip shows have been held since the regulations changed.

"There's no nudity," he said. "You can see more on HBO."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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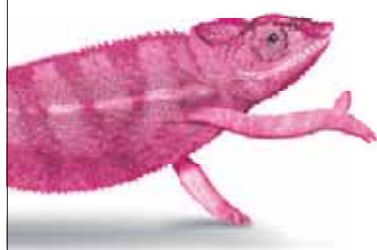
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THE SELF-SURVEILLANCE GENERATION — PART II

The curated teen

Self-editing and the fear of missing out are keeping kids plugged in — and on edge

What does it mean for teens' development when they are constantly glued to social media? One psychologist fears we're raising a generation of anxious, superficial kids. JEFF HARPER/METRO IN HALIFAX



Stephanie Taylor
Metro | Halifax

Marlisa, 17, is standing in her Halifax high school cafeteria with her purse over one shoulder and a binder tucked under her arm. Her eyes are downcast, staring at her phone.

We eventually sit together. "This is my Instagram," she says, proudly.

Most of Marlisa's 28 posts are selfies. Four are posed in front of the same floor-length bedroom mirror. The reflections show her sitting on the side of a bed, with part of a black dress tucked off to the side, exposing the brown skin of her upper thigh.

In every one, her eyes are fixed to the screen, watching herself.

"I want them to see that I'm independent and I don't need anyone to control my life," she tells me.

Experimenting with one's identity has always been a part of adolescence, but today, with the ubiquity of social media platforms such as Facebook and Instagram, this process is now happening online, where teens are able to curate their image finely.

Teens see this as a good thing. In their paper, called *Will the Real Digital Girl Please Stand Up?* Examining the Gap

Between Policy and Dialogue and Girls' Accounts of their Digital Existence, researchers Jane Bailey and Valerie Steeves cite evidence that girls in particular gravitate toward social media because "it gives them control over their image and self-presentation" and lets them explore the adult world without their parents.

But Larry Borins, a clinical psychologist who works with teens in the Toronto area, believes this culture of self-surveillance that social technologies have created is leading to an increasingly anxious, superficial generation.

Self-editing and anxiety

Borins says the power of platforms such as Facebook and Instagram — which act as windows into people's lives, coupled with complex identity-play and a desire to feel connected to friends that defines adolescence — results in an obsession with self-editing.

"They're experimenting, but not really showing their true identity. They're showing only what they want other people to see of them."

This is supported by Bailey and Steeves' paper, which goes on to explain that more important for girls to be seen online, is not to be seen badly.

That means teens dedicate hours to painstakingly man-

age their online selves in ways Borins finds comparable to the condition of cognitive distortion — symptomatic of depression and anxiety.

He says sufferers are constantly comparing themselves against others, filtering out their positives attributes to only focus on the negatives, which are exaggerated and overblown.

Dopamine and the 'like' generation

Marlisa tells me people criticize the photo of her in the black dress.

"A lot of people said I didn't act my age, like I was acting grown-up. And I didn't take that as offence — I was like, 'OK, well that's a good thing.'"

Scrolling through her photos, another catches my attention: Marlisa standing in front of a change-room mirror wearing a teal bra and underwear.

I ask what she's thinking about when she posts these images.

"How many likes I'll get," she replies. "I care for likes, especially comments. If someone's like, 'Oh my God, you're pretty,' that makes me feel good."

This makes sense to Borins, who says shots of the happy chemical dopamine are released in our brains every time

we receive a like or even an email notification.

And as humans, we are instinctively searching for that next dopamine rush — a new Facebook friend request, a like on Instagram or retweet on Twitter — which is what Borins believes keeps teens constantly checking their phones.

FOMO: Fear of missing out

Esther's eyes widen as she counts the hours she spends on her phone a day.

"Like, 23," the 16-year-old jokes as she swaps glances with her friend Mariam from across the cafeteria table.

Two iPhones rest on the table like centrepieces. Each admits she is addicted; they've been addicted to their phones since Grade 6, in fact. Both struggle to find words when I ask what happens on a day without their phones:

"I feel sick," says Esther. "I'm so used to having it with me all the time that when I won't have it, I feel just like I'm just missing something," Mariam says. "Like even if I'm not using it, I just feel like I need to have it with me in my pocket, in my hand."

Fear of missing out, Borins

says, is contributing to a youth culture where teens are too self-obsessed to learn empathy or how "to step into someone else's shoes."

"We see (pictures of) people at parties that we haven't gone to and all of sudden there is this tremendous sense of not being included, not being in the community that elevates the sense of missing out," he says.

He explains that overwhelming pressure to keep up with online appearances, not to mention dealing with threats of cyberbullying and harassment, is taking a dangerous toll on teenagers' self-esteem, even causing some to swear off social media all together.

An undocumented future

Borins fears that without some sort of intervention, a generation of self-obsessed teens will only grow up to become "emotionally unavailable" adults.

The culture of instant connectivity threatens to replace real interpersonal skills with those of online or text conversations, he warns, adding that young people are at risk of losing their ability to read social

“

You don't want to be someone ... people don't know. You want to be someone where everyone knows you and they want to get to know you.

Marlisa, 17, a student at a high school in Halifax

“

That project of creating a curated identity is endless.

Matt Johnson, director of education at MediaSmarts, a digital and media literacy group in Canada

39%

A recent survey by MediaSmarts cited that 39 per cent of teens sleep with their phones on so as not to miss out on anything.

cues and handle the conflict.

It is in a teenager's nature to deepen their social relationships by watching and being watched by peers, according to Steeves in her 2012 paper: *Hide and Seek: Surveillance of Young People on the Internet*.

However, she argues that online socializing is rooted in numerous "surveillant properties," such as Facebook "stalking" that allows teens to learn details about their peers without ever having to have a face-to-face conversation with them.

The exact impact these trends will have on a teenager's development remains to be seen, says Borins. He says researchers have no definitive evidence about what the long-term effects of growing up online means for the teenage brain.

For now, all he and millions of parents can do is deal with an anxiety of their own, waiting to see what will happen when a social media-addicted generation of adolescents grows up.

metro ONLINE

Missed Part I? Get caught up online and read how teens today are making their own rules when it comes to online behaviour, at metronews.ca.



A firing squad chair is seen in this photo. Utah is the only state to employ firing squads if no lethal injection drugs are available. TRENT NELSON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE, POOL

Utah faces firing squad controversy

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT

Tourism industry fears business may go elsewhere

Utah lawmakers say they took a pragmatic approach in approving the firing squad as a form of execution if lethal-injection drugs aren't available.

But critics say bringing back the firing squad in Utah — the only state to use the method in the past 40 years — could tarnish the state's image with visitors.

Tourism is big business in Utah, home to world-class ski resorts and spectacular national parks. Travellers spent a record \$7.5 billion in the state in 2013, and tourism dollars are linked to one of every 10 Utah jobs, according to a University of Utah report released this year.

But firing squad executions draw a different kind of attention — one Utah lawmakers decided 11 years ago that the state didn't need. Former state Rep. Sheryl Allen said Tuesday reinstating the firing squad as a backup could once again elicit criticism and give the state a

bad reputation.

"I think Utah needs to be concerned. That's not what we want our attention on," said Allen, a Republican who sponsored the 2004 bill that did away with firing squads as a primary execution method.

Bringing back the method adds fuel to the fire for critics who point to other Utah oddities — such as its strict, sometimes confusing liquor laws — as reasons to steer clear, said David Corsun, director of the University of Denver's Fritz Knoebel School of Hospitality Management.

The firing squad could affect Salt Lake City's position in the competitive and lucrative convention business, Corsun said.

Large associations with members of varied political and social backgrounds try to avoid states where controversial laws recently have passed.

Current legislators and tourism officials, however, downplayed the new law's impact on Utah's image. State tourism director Vicki Varela said in a statement she doesn't think the firing squad presents a major problem because executions are rare and the possibility that the state will have to use its backup is remote. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

U.S. MILITARY

Brass doesn't want transgender soldiers

U.S. Defence Secretary Ash Carter has gotten pushback from senior military leaders on whether the Pentagon should lift its ban on transgender people serving in the armed forces, according to officials familiar with the discussions.

Carter initially told troops in Afghanistan that he was open-minded when asked if the Defence Department was planning to remove one of the last gender- or sexuality-based

barriers to military service. But defence officials said members of his top brass told Carter that they had serious reservations.

The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the matter publicly.

Military officials are reluctant to publicly discuss their opposition, but much of it centres on questions about where transgender troops would be housed, what berthing they

would have on ships, which bathrooms they would use, and whether their presence would affect the ability of small units to work well together.

There also are questions about whether the military would conduct or pay for the medical treatment and costs associated with any gender transition, as well as which physical training standards they would be required to meet.

The military has dealt with many similar questions as it integrated the ranks by race, gender and sexual orientation. And in many cases they raised comparable worries about what effect the change would have on the force, including whether it would hinder small units that often have to work together in remote, confined locations for long periods of time.

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Pilot locked out of cockpit before crash, says report



French President Francois Hollande, center, German Chancellor Angela Merkel, left, and Spanish Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy attend a news conference in Seyne-les-Alpes, France, Wednesday after a Germanwings jetliner crashed Tuesday in the French Alps.

CHRISTOPHE ENA, POOL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

FLIGHT 9525

Investigators analyze audio from mangled black box

The first half of Germanwings Flight 9525 was chilling in its normalcy. It took off from Barcelona en route to Duesseldorf, climbing up over the Mediterranean and turning over France. The last communication was a routine request to continue on its route.

Minutes later, at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, the Airbus A320 inexplicably began to descend. Within 10 minutes it had plunged from its cruising altitude of 38,000 feet to just over 6,000 feet and slammed into a remote mountainside.

To find out why, investigators have been analyzing the mangled black box that contains an audio recording from the cockpit. Remi Jouty, the head of France's accident investigation bureau BEA, said Wednesday that it has yielded

sounds and voices, but so far not the "slightest explanation" of why the plane crashed, killing all 150 on board.

A newspaper report, however, suggests the audio contains intriguing information at the least: One of the pilots is heard leaving the cockpit, then banging on the door with increasing urgency in an unsuccessful attempt to get back in.

"The guy outside is knocking lightly on the door and there is no answer," The New York Times quotes an unidentified investigator as saying. "And then he hits the door stronger and no answer. There is never an answer."

Eventually, the newspaper quotes the investigator as saying: "You can hear he is trying to smash the door down."

The investigator, whom the newspaper said could not be identified because the investigation is continuing, said officials don't know why the pilot left.

He also does not speculate on why the other pilot didn't open the door or make contact with ground control before the crash.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

150

According to Germanwings, the victims included 72 German citizens, as well as 35 Spaniards, two people each from Australia, Argentina, Iran, Venezuela and one person each from Britain, the Netherlands, Colombia, Mexico, Japan, Denmark, Belgium and Israel.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

YEMEN

President flees country

Yemeni President Abed Rabbo Mansour Hadi fled the country by sea Wednesday on a boat from Aden, as Shiite rebels and their allies advanced on the southern port city where he had taken refuge, captured his defence minister and seized the city's airport.

Hadi's departure marks a dramatic turn in Yemen's turmoil and means a decisive collapse of what was left of his rule, which the United States and Gulf allies had hoped could stabilize the chronically chaotic nation and fight al-Qaida's branch here after the 2011 ouster of longtime autocrat Ali Abdullah Saleh.

Over the past year, the Shiite rebels known as Houthis, who are believed to be supported by Iran, have battled their way out of their northern strongholds, overwhelmed the capital, Sanaa, seized province after province in the north and worked their way south. Their advance has been boosted by units of the military and security forces that remained loyal to Saleh, who allied with the rebels.

With Hadi gone, there remains resistance to the Houthis scattered around the country, whether from Sunni tribesmen, local militias, pro-Hadi military units or al-Qaida fighters.

Hadi and his aides left Aden after 3:30 p.m. on two boats, security and port officials told The Associated Press. The officials would not specify his destination.

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Knox conviction in error: Lawyer

MURDER TRIAL

Defence argues decision is a distortion of the facts

Amanda Knox's defence lawyer urged Italy's highest court on Wednesday to overturn the American's conviction in the 2007 murder of her British roommate, calling it a "grave judicial error."

Knox faces 28-1/2 years in an Italian jail for the 2007 murder of 21-year-old Meredith Kercher in an apartment they shared in the university town of Perugia, after being convicted by a Florence appeals court last year along with her former Italian boyfriend, Raffaele Sollecito.

Sollecito's defence will make its case on Friday, when the case resumes before the Court of Cas-

sation.

Winding up Wednesday's full day of arguments, Knox defence lawyer Carlo Dalla Vedova said the Florence court's conviction of Knox "is not justice, it is a distortion of the facts."

He argued, that based on analysis of blood stains, including two handprints on the victim's pillow, in Kercher's room and elsewhere in the house the two women shared, "there is not one trace of Amanda in the room of the crime."

"We are confronted with a very grave judicial error that must be set right," he said before asking the court to overturn the 2014 guilty verdict.

Knox maintains her innocence. She returned to the United States in 2011 after an earlier appellate court verdict acquitted the pair. She was awaiting the high court's decision in her home town of Seattle, and is "worried, very worried," Dalla



Raffaele Sollecito, the ex-boyfriend of Amanda Knox, arrives at Italy's highest court building in Rome, Wednesday. ALESSANDRA TARANTINO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Vedova said.

"I don't think she is sleeping much," he added.

Sollecito spent the day in

court, joined by family members and supporters. Defendants are not permitted to address the high court. He remains free but

his passport was seized after the Florence court sentenced him to 25 years.

The Cassation Court's options



I don't think she is sleeping much.

Amanda Knox's defence lawyer, Carlo Dalla Vedova, on his client's state of mind

include confirming the guilty verdicts, raising the question of extradition for Knox; overturning the convictions and ordering a third appeals trial; or overturning the convictions without a new trial, tantamount to acquittal.

Knox and Sollecito were convicted in 2009 of the murder, then acquitted by a Perugia appeals court in 2011. The Court of Cassation, however, threw out the acquittal in a scathing decision, remanding the case to a Florence appeals court, which convicted the pair.

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TAKEOVER CENTURY-OLD FIRMS MERGE H.J. Heinz is buying Kraft Foods Group, creating one of the world's largest food and beverage companies that will own brands such as Kraft, Heinz and Oscar Mayer. The deal that created the new Kraft Heinz Co., with annual revenue of about \$28 billion US, was engineered by Warren Buffett's Berkshire Hathaway and Brazilian investment firm 3G Capital, the company behind the takeover of Tim Hortons by Burger King last year. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Watchdog slams Bell over meddling report

BROADCASTING

Bell Media's head allegedly wanted Blais blackballed

Canada's broadcasting regulator has issued a sharply worded reminder to Bell Media that it has a statutory duty not to interfere in the work of its CTV journalists, calling a report of meddling "disturbing."

The warning follows a Globe

and Mail article that says Bell Media president Kevin Crull intervened in how journalists reported a major regulatory decision last week. The decision had not gone the way the corporation had hoped.

The Globe says Crull demanded that journalists not give any airtime to Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) chairman Jean-Pierre Blais. CTV president Wendy Freeman is said to have communicated that edict to journalists, reportedly explaining

An informed citizenry cannot be sacrificed for ... commercial interests

Jean-Pierre Blais, CRTC chairman

that she feared for her job.

Blais had just announced rule changes requiring broadcasters to offer a low-cost pack-

age to consumers and to allow them to "pick and pay" other individual channels. He had appeared at a news conference, and also did individual interviews that day.

"The allegation ... that the largest communication company in Canada is manipulating news coverage is disturbing," Blais wrote.

The Globe report says CTV Ottawa bureau chief Bob Fife, chief anchor Lisa LaFlamme and Freeman, ultimately refused to abide by Crull's edict for the evening newscast.

Crull has apologized for intruding on the editorial integrity of the CTV's news team. He said he was wrong to try to influence the editorial decisions of CTV journalists and has "apologized to the team directly for this mistake."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

MEDIA

Postmedia cleared to buy Sun papers

Postmedia Network Canada Corp.'s \$316-million deal to buy Sun Media's English-language newspapers and digital properties cleared a key regulatory hurdle Wednesday.

The Competition Bureau approved the deal as it ruled it is unlikely to substantially lessen or prevent competition.

The bureau cited a lack of a close rivalry between Postmedia's broadsheet newspapers and Sun Media's tabloid newspapers.

The regulator also said the media company will want to keep readers and maintain editorial quality to attract advertisers to its newspapers.

Postmedia already has one

of Canada's largest chains of daily newspapers including the National Post and dailies in Montreal, Ottawa, Calgary, Edmonton and Vancouver.

The deal, announced last year, will add 175 newspapers and publications, including the Sun chain of daily newspapers as well as the London Free Press and the 24 Hours free dailies in Toronto and Vancouver.

The sale also includes the Canoe web portal in English Canada, part of the national sales team based in Toronto, Quebecor's Islington printing plant in Ontario and 34 real estate properties in Ontario, Alberta and Manitoba.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

OIL INDUSTRY

Think-tank predicts slow crude recovery

The Conference Board of Canada delivered bad news for those hoping that the latest crude oil downturn will create only short-term pain.

The Ottawa-based think-tank predicts that Canada's oil industry will see a 37 per cent drop in revenues, a pre-tax loss of \$3 billion and the 8,000 fewer jobs this year compared with 2014. And the industry is unlikely to bounce back as quickly this time as it did after the last major drop in 2008 and 2009, it said in a report published Wednesday.

Crude prices saw a much more drastic drop the last time around — touching records above \$140 US a barrel

and lows around \$33 US in a half-year span — but by 2011, were back above \$100 US. The U.S. crude benchmark now sits below \$48 US a barrel, compared with \$107 US last June.

"I know it looks rough right now but hopefully by the end of 2015, we start to see prices back towards \$60," Conference Board economist Mike Shaw said.

The Conference Board's outlook through 2019 sees \$80 US oil is the best it gets. The main reason is fracking technology that has helped unleash huge crude volumes from U.S. shale formations — a big contributor to the current slump.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

market minute

	DOLLAR 79.89¢ (-0.10¢)
	TSX 14,929.37 (-151.89)
	OIL \$49.21 US (+\$1.70)
	GOLD \$1,197 US (+\$5.60)

NATURAL GAS: \$2.723 US (-6.3¢)
DOW JONES: 17,718.54 (-292.60)

Dating site fined

PlentyOfFish has paid a fine of \$48,000 after the CRTC found the online dating website violated its new anti-spam legislation. Complaints alleged PlentyOfFish Media Inc. sent emails that did not have a clearly labelled or easy-to-use unsubscribe option. THE CANADIAN PRESS



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ROSEMARY WESTWOOD

metroview

Gay hair sweater? 'Hello?! Holocaust!' I'm pretty sure I yelled that in the newsroom.

There is a room at Auschwitz filled with piles and piles of human hair, braided or coiled into balls. I stood there five years ago in horror.

It's all I could think of when I first saw what's been dubbed the "gay sweater," unveiled this week in Toronto. The bulky, brownish sweater is knitted entirely of hair from gay people's heads.

By making something literally from gay people, the sweater's creators hope to underline that people, not things, are gay, and that the phrase "that's so gay" is always homophobic. But that wasn't the first message I got.

"Hello?! Holocaust!" I'm pretty sure I yelled that in the newsroom.

The Nazis harvested their victims' hair and sold it to companies, which used it for mattress stuffing, carpets, and socks. The creators of the sweater were either ignorant of the similarities and symbolism, I figured, or too arrogant to care. As upset as I was, I'm now guessing it's not as angry as gay people in California (or anywhere else) might be this week. A lawyer there is trying to pass a ballot measure that would make it legal to shoot them, point blank, for being gay. The Sodomite Suppression Act calls gayness an "abominable crime" that will bring "God's just wrath." To prevent that, it demands "any person who willingly touches another person of the same gender for purposes of sexual

gratification be put to death by bullets to the head or by any other convenient method."

Long pause.

No, this is not actually going to become law. But in the meantime, it's generating headlines. Just like the gay sweater. And I can't stop thinking of Auschwitz and that room.

Jeremy Dias has also stood there. He's the founder of the Canadian Centre for Gender and Sexual Diversity, which is behind the gay sweater project. He remembered how "among the failing colours of the hair this one piece of red hair was just so striking" that he and others burst into tears when they saw it. Dias had considered that some people might see a resemblance, but his project is nothing like what happened at Auschwitz, he said. By making that association, he argued, I was proving his point: Perhaps I didn't even think to get upset about the ubiquitous "that's so gay" because I've come to accept it as part of the way people speak. He's wrong. I do not think "that's so gay" is acceptable. But I might have come to expect it.

I'm also not being threatened with murder in California, however theoretical. Nor am I likely to be attacked for holding my boyfriend's hand here in Canada. The gay sweater is provocative on purpose in an effort to end hate. And in the context of that battle, my discomfort matters far less.

the big number

39%

Percentage of Canadians aged 18 to 24 who vote, according to a study by Samara. The study says youth drive down overall voter turnout, and are increasingly less likely to ever start voting.

Banks are designing our homes, and not for the better



ON ARCHITECTURE
Alexander Josephson

One of the upshots of the real estate boom over the last decade is that Canadians have, for better or worse, become armchair connoisseurs of design.

We hear people talking at dinner parties about how recladding a house in COR-TEN steel panels, upgrading kitchen counters with Corian, or adding an egg tub to a bathroom will increase their property values.

While these makeovers may have short-term pay-offs, they reflect a Canadian predicament: People are focused on renovations, not architecture.

Since 2008, our banks have become famous for playing it safe. What many people don't realize, however, is the extent to which banks, in all their cautious

glory, are influencing the design process.

As a result, Canadians' design dreams are getting stuck in second gear and architects looked upon as a luxury instead of a vital investment.

Whether you're a growing family, value sustainability, or cherish state-of-the-art design, people want architecture to be responsive to their tastes and lifestyles.

Say you decide to renovate or want to build anew. You need money.

But what you quickly realize in meeting with your mortgage specialist is that the bank is only willing to take you half the way home.

Canadian banks will typically finance 40 to 60 per cent of a property's value for renovation or rebuilding, depending on your personal circumstances.

At the end of the day, many successful younger Canadians are discovering

that even with great jobs, good credit, and existing home ownership, you need savings, lines of credit, high-interest personal

The 25-year mortgage is dictating a calibre of architecture the general public can ill afford.

loans, and — for the lucky bunch — generous parents to help square the costs.

Put another way, Mike Holmes has a prime-time empire precisely because it's too prohibitive to build comprehensive projects the first time around without exceeding available resources.

Sound design is a casualty of a chicken-and-egg tango between banks and real estate markets, neither of

which are willing to invest.

It is this cycle — more so than permitting or building codes — that drives the quality and esthetics of Canadian residential architecture and is fostering a culture of compromise.

In many cases, unless you miraculously find a pot of gold to build what you really want, people have no choice but to accept lower price-tag, construction-grade builds.

Essentially, bankers are designing our homes, and the 25-year mortgage is dictating a calibre of architecture the general public can ill afford.

We need to look beyond the tips of our Corian countertops and start seeing architecture as a long-term investment.

Alexander Josephson is co-founder of PARTISANS Architecture and a lecturer at the University of Toronto Daniels School of Architecture.



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IF YOU DO NOT CHANGE DIRECTION, YOU MAY END UP WHERE YOU ARE HEADING



LAO TZO



Throw out the little black dress

TORONTO FASHION WEEK

Narces brings whimsy and luxurious fun to evening wear

Narces brought the party to the runway with a new collection punctuated by playful patterns, cute cocktail dresses and fanciful frocks.

"There's always an undertone of not-so-serious, have fun with your evening wear, enjoy what you're wearing," designer Nikki Wirthensohn

said backstage at Toronto's World MasterCard Fashion Week on Tuesday.

"This was kind of the height of being whimsical and ... bringing out the sense of humour, I guess, in how you can dress."

Red-lip prints dotted on sumptuous short-sleeved dresses were the perfect embodiment of the collection's flirty, feminine and formal style fusion.

The vast spectrum of designs encompassed everything from flowing baby doll dresses to body-hugging sheaths.

Full-length dresses were

richly adorned with swaths of strategically placed sequins, lace and embellishments. A luxurious jumpsuit was also showcased in the range.

The new line featured a palette of black, ivory, gold, silver, red and a combination of black and ivory in organza, lace, laser-cut satin, stretch knit, mesh and tulle.



There's always an undertone of not-so-serious, have fun with your evening wear, enjoy what you're wearing

Designer Nikki Wirthensohn

Wirthensohn said she was inspired by the work of Japanese artist Sachiko Kodama's ferrofluid art.

The process involves the use of a liquid (ferrofluid) that becomes highly magnetized with the presence of a magnetic field and forms a moving sculpture.

"We've got lots of dresses where the body is kind of forming that magnetic field."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

FASHION NOTES

Designer Sunny Fong on the dot with new collection for VAWK

Sunny Fong made a colourful return to the runway at World MasterCard Fashion Week on Tuesday with his fall-winter collection for VAWK, awash in vibrant shades.

Fong draws on '60s style influences and the pop art of late American icon Roy Lichtenstein for his new range.

"We still have the same VAWK woman, but there are other silhouettes that we're playing with that is a little bit of a departure."



Fong said the running theme for his new line is the dot, encompassing everything from buttons on beautifully structured coats to the shapes of the creations themselves.

The inspiration does indeed come full circle within the Dot Du Jour line, with the spherical shapes evident in the sculptural sleeved tops and voluminous skirts featured in the collection.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Magnetic field: Models walk the runway for the Narces collection during Toronto Fashion Week.

NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

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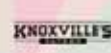
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Books from beyond the grave

READING

Highly anticipated releases from dead authors are all the rage

Mike Dojc
For Metro

Despite new releases coming down the pipe by adored and still-kicking scribes like Toni Morrison and Jonathan Franzen, the most hotly awaited fiction releases in the next 12 months come courtesy of stone-cold dead literary lions.

Publishers have unearthed and dusted off previously unseen books by beat generation icon Jack Kerouac, rhyme maestro

Dr. Seuss, and if the rumours bear out, even more new work by high school English teacher favourite, J.D. Salinger.

But, if these manuscripts weren't published during their author's lifetime, might that not have been on purpose, and do publishers have any misgivings about potentially disrespecting late writers' wishes?

"That's a big question," concedes Jean Bernier, editor at Les Éditions du Boréal, the Montreal publishing house releasing *La vie est d'hommage*, a collection of previously unseen French-language Jack Kerouac work.

"Of course we'll never know what the author thinks about that, but if you're someone like Salinger or Kerouac, you're so famous that in part you belong to the readers, you belong to the history of literature.

"So I don't have any moral qualms (when we are talking about) such important writers —

I think it's in the public interest."

Tom Graves, a partner at The Devault-Graves Agency that got the posthumous Salinger train chugging last year when they released *Three Early Stories* is far less diplomatic on the subject.

"Authors, schmauthors. Many of them are notoriously nitwitty about their books. Take J.D. Salinger. Please.

"He wrote in a dungeon for nearly 50 years and wouldn't show his writings to anyone — kept it all in a safe," he says.

"But who knows? Salinger would have really hated the fact we republished three early stories of his, even though they are quite good and are examples of Salinger's muse before he nearly went mad in combat in WWII.

"He was a very changed man after the war and no longer felt his early work had value. I hate to tell him, but he is wrong," adds Graves.



BOOKS

Posthumous new releases



What Pet Should I Get?

The brother-and-sister duo featured in this previously boxed manuscript discovered by Theodore Geisel's widow are the same kids who appear in *One Fish Two Fish Red Fish Blue Fish*, dating the work from between 1958 and 1962. The rediscovered tome hits shelves July 28 and Random House has teased that there will be even more previous-



That Which Does Not Kill

Stieg Larsson wrote three instalments of his Millennium series — a.k.a. *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* books — and planned to pen seven more before he died of a heart attack in 2004. Keeping it Swedish, writer David Lagercrantz revives everyone's favourite goth hacker heroine in a new sequel out Sept. 1.



La vie est d'hommage

Kerouac fans are giddy about this collection of texts preserved by Kerouac's brother-in-law, due out in the spring of 2016. The book includes the early '50s novel *La nuit est ma femme* as well as a novella titled *Sur le chemin*, which despite translating to *On the Road* differs from the author's career-defining book. The non-profit Library of America will publish the English version.

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Tokyo men one step ahead of style

MENSWEAR

Future of men's fashion lives in Japan's striking streetstyle

Feminine glamour may turn the most heads at fashion weeks in New York or Paris, but in Tokyo it is the style-conscious men who set the sartorial trends.

From sharp futurism to wool-and-denim casuals, the finale of Tokyo Fashion Week earlier this month put the spotlight largely on menswear, aiming to promote the most dynamic area of Japanese clothes design.

"What happens here is probably the future of men's fashion," said Antonio Cristaudo from Pitti Immagine, a collection of fashion industry events in Italy.

"There's individuality, they want to be different," he told AFP. "It's important for all the fashion world to see what's happening in Japan."

Such innovation is nowhere more evident than on the streets of Tokyo, from the vintage and skater styles of Ura-Hara to the slick suits of the Marunouchi business district.

With sharp tailoring and eye-catching accessories, from hats and bags to shiny shoes, the get-up of Tokyo gents is striking to the first-time visitor.

"The menswear is just so much more exciting than womenswear here," said Mi-sha Janette, an American fashion journalist based in Tokyo, who suggested the tendency for women to cover up meant

their clothes could be "a bit shapeless."

For the men, meanwhile, "it's OK to do your hair, be into fashion, use skincare," Janette said. "They like to be proper in Japan."

Although Tokyo's dandies shine at home and start trends that travel abroad, the success of Japan's own designers has been limited overseas.

The industry is now trying to change that with the new Tokyo Fashion Awards, backed by the city government, which push homegrown brands to emulate their leading lights such as Junya Watanabe and Rei Kawakubo, founder of Comme des Garçons.

The awards jury chose six brands, predominantly menswear-focused, which were seen to have international potential.

The winners held a showroom at Paris Fashion Week this year and presented their autumn/winter collections in Tokyo on Saturday. AFP



A Tokyo Fashion Week guest dons a jacket by Dissborn, shoes by Dr. Martens and hat by Kenzo. GETTY IMAGES



Glasses, shirt, tie, waistcoat and suit by Thom Browne at Shibuya Hikarie in Tokyo. GETTY IMAGES

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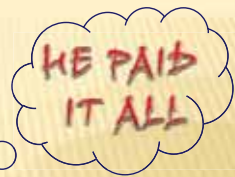
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Redemption 2015

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April 3-5, 2015 9:00 AM Daily

You will be glad you did...

Get mixing with Mad Men

What the Mad Men — and women — drink says a lot. With the final episodes of the season set to begin April 5 on AMC, we toast these characters with some signature cocktails from the '60s. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS;PHOTOS: AMC/LIONSGATE



VODKA GIMLET Betty's break

This is Betty's signature drink and would most likely have been made with half vodka, half Rose's West India Sweetened Lime Juice served over ice. When the Cuban missile crisis looms and there's trouble in her marriage to Don, Betty orders a gimlet at a bar before engaging in a backroom tryst with a stranger.



OLD FASHIONED Don's drink

Back then this would have been made with a cheap, blended whisky, possibly Don's favourite — Canadian Club. Start with a sugar cube and a few drops of bitters and muddle in a cherry and orange wedge, adding the whisky and possibly a lemon wedge garnish. These days, bartenders use a good bourbon or rye and add just a dash of sugar and bit-ters.



DRY MARTINI Just for Joan

The show's second season picked up in 1962, the year Dr No informed the world James Bond drank a vodka — as opposed a gin — martini, shaken and not stirred. A traditional approach is 2 ounces vodka, 1/3 ounce dry vermouth, olive garnish. Unflappable Joan likely wouldn't care if it's shaken or stirred — and if you're serving this over ice, it doesn't really matter.

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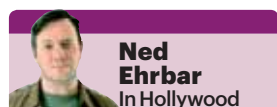
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One Direction loses bad boy Zayn Malik

MUST
READ

MUSIC

The singer is parting ways with the pop group



Ned Ehrbar
In Hollywood

Looks like the stress was more severe than we thought.

Five years after being cobbled together by Simon Cowell on The X Factor, One Direction has gone from a fivesome to a foursome, as Zayn Malik has announced that he is resigning from the hugely successful pop group. Niall Horan, Harry Styles, Liam Payne and Louis Tomlinson, currently on a world tour, will continue as a four-piece. "My life with One Direction has been more than I could ever have imagined," Malik says in a statement.

"But, after five years, I feel like it is now the right time for me to leave the band. I'd like to apologize to the fans if I've let anyone down, but I have to do what feels right."



After five years, Zayn Malik is leaving One Direction. ALL AP/GETTY

HIP HOP

Inside the mind of rapper Iggy Azalea

Just in case there were any lingering questions you had about how Iggy Azalea's mind works, Vogue subjected the Australian rapper to a rapid-fire list of 73 questions.

How they landed on 73 as a number is beyond me, but hey, the more you know.

For instance, her favourite TV show is Game of Thrones,



and her superpower of choice is invisibility. And she loves tacos, because clearly she's a human being.

But some of the information she divulges to the magazine is rather revealing: "Four months ago, I got bigger boobs! I'd thought about it my entire life," she says, admitting she didn't initially want to share the information. "But then I decided I wasn't into secret-keeping." Obviously.

MOVIES

Vin Diesel has high hopes for Furious 7

With the seventh film in Fast and Furious franchise set to come out next month and expected to rack up the kind of titanic global success the last few have seen, it's understandable that series star Vin Diesel might be feeling a bit bullish on its prospects.

Maybe too bullish, actually. "Universal is going to have the biggest movie in history with this movie. It will probably win best picture at the Oscars, unless the Oscars don't want to be relevant, ever," Diesel tells Variety. "This will win best picture. There is nothing that will ever



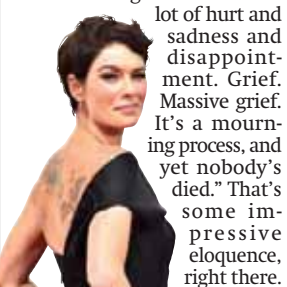
Vin Diesel

come close to the power of this thing." Mr. Diesel, I'm glad you're so pleased with your latest work, but let's temper this excitement a bit, yeah?

DIVORCE

Lena Headey on her split

Lena Headey, who plays reigning Game of Thrones ice queen Cersei Lannister, is a lot more emotionally open in real life, especially when it comes to discussing her 2012 divorce from Peter Loughran. "It's tough," she tells More magazine. "There's a



lot of hurt and sadness and disappointment. Grief. It's a mourning process, and yet nobody's died." That's some impressive eloquence, right there.

FAN DRAMA

Rowling wins again



J.K. Rowling

Harry Potter creator J.K. Rowling wins the Internet once again, this time by calmly shutting down a reader who took issue with the fact that one of her characters, Dumbledore, is gay. "Thank you so much for writing Harry Potter," the fan tweeted. "I wonder why you said that Dumbledore is a gay because I can't see him in that way." Rowling, understandably good with words, offered back a simple: "Maybe because gay people just look like ... people?"

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Perplexing warning

Economists are confident that our lending systems are strong

Brent Jolly
For Metro

Although the International Monetary Fund (IMF) has recently sounded warning bells regarding the Canadian housing market, economists believe its concerns are being overplayed and should have little bearing on Canadian homebuyers and owners.

Earlier this month, the IMF released a research note that expressed unease with recent policy changes made by the federal government to help tighten mortgage lending rules and financial oversight.

"I find it perplexing," said Sherry Cooper, chief economist with Dominion Lending Centres (DLC).

"Without question, Canada has a stronger regulatory system (post-2008 financial crisis) than in any country in the world. If it isn't broke then why should we fix it?"

In its note, the IMF said Canada should consider con-

solidating its oversight of the financial system into a single body in order to "strengthen accountability and reinforce policy-makers' ability to identify and respond to future potential crises."

Currently, the regulation of Canada's system is overseen by a combination of different bodies, which include the Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions (OSFI), the Department of Finance, and the Canada Deposit Insurance Corporation (CDIC).

Benjamin Reitzes, a senior economist and vice-president of economic research with BMO Capital Markets, is not convinced by the IMF's call for reform. Like Cooper, Reitzes said Canadian lending standards are strong and there is a high threshold for consumers to cross before being approved for a mortgage.

Dovetailing their anxiety about Canada's regulatory environment, the IMF has reiterated its concern regarding Canadians' high lev-



Canadian economists believe the International Monetary Fund's concerns are being overplayed and should have little bearing on homebuyers and owners. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



The net worth and the debt-to-asset levels of Canadians are very strong right now.

Peter Norman, chief economist with Altus Group

els of household debt, which currently sits at about \$1.63 against every \$1 of income earned.

On the surface, this comparison creates a "visceral" reaction, said Peter Norman,

chief economist with Altus Group, but it should not cause Canadians to lose much sleep. This is because the IMF's calculation does not include household assets, he said.

"The net worth and the debt-

to-asset levels of Canadians are very strong right now," Norman said.

This research note marks the second time in three months that the IMF has shone its spotlight on the issue of housing in Canada. In January, the organization issued a report that warned the Canadian real estate market could be overheated by anywhere from seven to 20 per cent, a claim that has been disputed by many industry experts.

STRATEGY

Gathering intelligence will pay off in long run

For some, the declaration to "do your homework" might bring back haunting memories of grade school. However, it is a strategy that could pay big dividends when the time comes to renew a mortgage.

"Not completing the proper legwork will do a major disservice to your wallet," said Robert McLister, founder of RateSpy.com, an online Canadian mortgage comparison site. "The more intelligence you can gather, the more likely your chances are of finding the best deal."

In addition to taking the proper time to compare rates from various financial institutions, McLister recommended investing time in searching to find the right professional to help with the renewal process.

He said that negotiating a mortgage is a complex process and working with a professional can help simplify the many layers of legal and contractual nuance. This is important, he said, because not every mortgage product is one size fits all.

For example, McLister said many deep-discount rate products have terms and conditions associated with them that could prevent borrowers from acquiring a future line of credit or that limits one's prepayment privileges.

David Fleming, a Toronto-based sales representative with Bosley Real Estate, said consumers should not be convinced that the lowest rate on a product will always provide them with the best deal over the long term.

Before signing, he said consumers must examine the agreement's terms and conditions.

"Not properly examining these small details could be financially crippling to consumers that will take out their entire return."

With the recent announcement that the Bank of Montreal and TD Bank are lowering their five-year fixed mortgage rate to 2.79 per cent, Fleming said consumers should consider locking in now.

"Don't get greedy. It is ludicrous how low the rates are right now. Still, there are some consumers out there who are sticking to a variable rate (mortgage) because they think there is still money on the table to be made. That's a big gamble."

BRENT JOLLY/FOR METRO

From homeowner to cottage dweller

Camilla Cornell
For Metro

When Mike Bayer purchased Seabreeze, his two-bedroom cottage on Lake Ontario in 2010, he was well aware that he might have to do some dancing to get financing.

Bayer was still in his 20s at the time, but he had been in the vacation rental business for several years as a rental agent and through his blog (cottageblogger.com), which offers advice on renting your recreational property.

Bayer knew from experience that lenders often view recreational homes as inherently more risky, so both your down payment and the interest rate you are offered may be higher than for a permanent residence.

"The feeling is, if a borrower gets into some financial difficulties, they will place more importance on paying the mortgage on their primary residence," said Janine Weis, a mortgage agent with Mortgage Intelligence in London, Ont.



The Bayer family understood that mortgages and financing are different for cottages than family dwellings, including down payments and interest rates. CONTRIBUTED

In addition, she said, under slow market conditions, cottages can take longer to sell, so lenders may fear that their interests aren't protected.

If you are considering buy-

ing a cottage you should probably visit your financial institution first to find out how much you can afford and get some pointers on what to look for, said Maureen Reid, a branch

manager with Meridian Credit Union in Penetanguishene, Ont.

"There are different types of financing based on the type of cottage you're going to purchase," she said.

Like most lenders, for instance, Meridian differentiates between cottages that have plenty of amenities and are easily accessible, usable year-round and more centrally located, often with other cottages around (Type A), and cottages that are more remote and rustic, perhaps only accessible by boat and usable only in the summer (Type B).

Since Type A properties have features that are similar to a residential home, "folks might get the same rate they would on their home mortgage," Reid said. "The five-year fixed rate today with Meridian is at 2.89 per cent."

Type B properties would require a different kind of financing.

"Then you need to get a personal loan with open terms and loan rates," she said. "So the interest rates are higher — at five per cent and above."

Reid added that, as a rule of thumb, you would require 20 per cent down to buy a Type A property, but on a remote property, you would require you to put down closer to 35 per cent.



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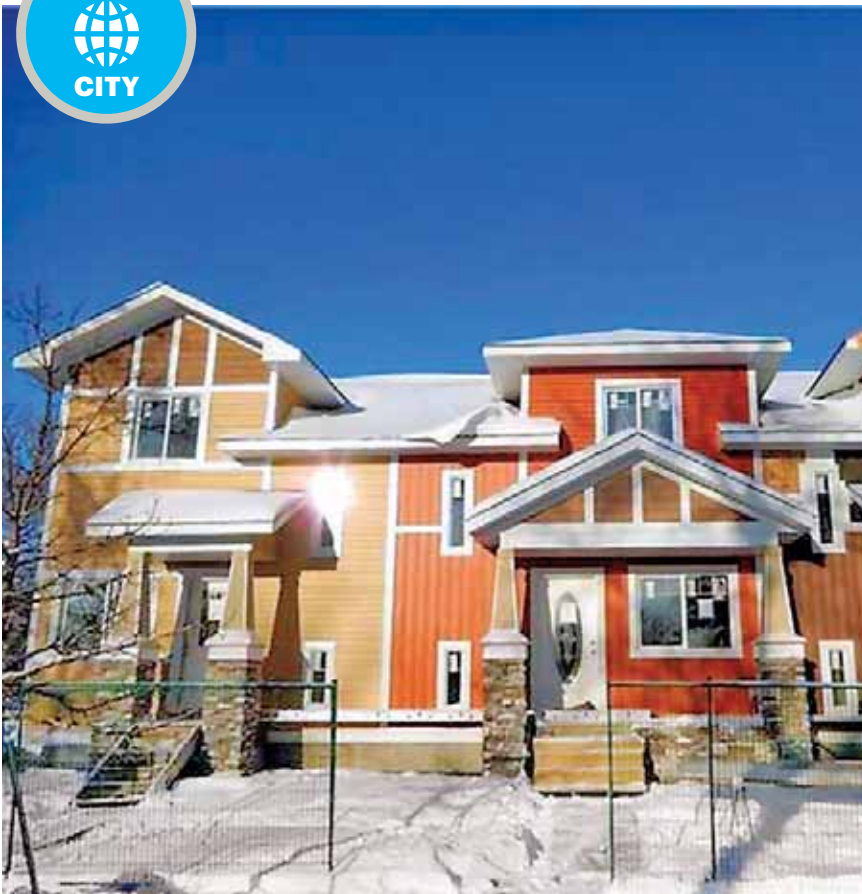
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What they're asking

Townhouses offer a great alternative to conventional, single-family homes. And they're not all in the deep suburbs. You can buy one a mere 10-minute commute from downtown — a great value and convenience if you work in the city. Metro takes a look at some new and resale townhouses near the core of Canadian cities.

DUNCAN MCALLISTER FOR METRO



\$384,900

Edmonton

Inglewood is Edmonton's largest residential neighbourhood where you can buy a new, contemporary townhouse comparable in price to other western Canadian cities. The Inglewood Condo Townhouses development is a three-plex of condo towns located at 12212 117 Ave. NW, with an asking price of \$384,900. It features two bedrooms, two full baths, upper deck and elevated patio. "It's about three kilometres northwest of downtown, where the new arena is going in the entertainment district," says listing agent Les Phillips with Re/Max Excellence, 780-481-2950.



\$579,000

Toronto

This spacious, two-storey, freehold townhouse at 265 Milan St., shows that you can still find a good deal on a townhouse in T.O. just outside the core. The property is listed for \$579,000 in the Moss Park area, which lies on the verge of the revitalized Regent Park neighbourhood. It has a walk score of 97. Features include a bi-level living area, two-plus-one bedrooms, two baths, 12-foot ceilings and a gas fireplace. Listing agent Cesario Sousa is with Royal LePage Supreme Realty, 416-535-8000.



\$324,900

Halifax

The Halifax-Dartmouth region has seen a modest but steady increase in home prices over the past few years. The Homes of Long Lake Village are a collection of custom-built townhouses and detached homes, located next to Long Lake Provincial Park. This unit at 628 Cowie Hill Rd., is listed for \$324,900. The two-storey home has three bedrooms and four bathrooms. Listing agent Andrew MacDormand is with Royal LePage Atlantic, 902-453-1700.



\$668,000

Vancouver

Next to Toronto, Vancouver is Canada's highest-priced market, although you can still get good value like this downtown luxury resale townhouse at 1060 Seymour St. Asking price is \$668,000 and includes a private entrance and a split-level, two bedroom, two bathroom layout. The building is less than 10 years old, with 1,100 sq. ft. of living space and a perfect walk score of 100. Listing agent is Harry Kramm with Sotheby's International Realty Canada, 778-374-3100.



\$388,395

Winnipeg

Here's a brand new, four-unit, luxury townhouse development at 604 Jessie Ave. — in Winnipeg's Crescentwood community — listed for \$388,395. Corydon Avenue is the place to be, says listing agent Darryl Walsh. The unit features an open-concept interior and private deck and yard, with two bedrooms and two bathrooms on two levels. Walsh works with Royal LePage Dynamic Real Estate, 204-989-5000.

IN BRIEF

Oilers' win has Avalanche on edge of the cliff

Derek Roy scored the winner as the Edmonton Oilers dealt the Colorado Avalanche's playoff hopes another blow, hanging on for a 4-3 win on Wednesday.

Martin Marincin, Jordan Eberle and Taylor Hall also scored for the Oilers (21-40-13), who have won two of their last three games.

Jarome Iginla, Alex Tanguay and Ryan O'Reilly replied for the Avs (33-28-12), who have lost three straight and are 10 points out of a playoff spot.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Federal judge denies NHL motion to dismiss lawsuit

The NHL's motion to dismiss a class-action lawsuit brought by former players over concussion-related injuries was largely rejected Wednesday by a federal judge, allowing the claims to move forward.

The plaintiffs have been seeking unspecified financial damages and medical monitoring. They've argued the league had the knowledge and resources to better prevent head trauma, failed to warn players properly of such risks and promoted violent play that led to their injuries.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Champs become underdogs

WHL

Oil Kings in tough in series vs. Wheat Kings

The Edmonton Oil Kings have history on their side in this year's Western Hockey League playoffs — but not much else.

The defending WHL and Memorial Cup champions hope to become a Cinderella team after taking a steep fall in the standings. Although the Oil Kings have won two league titles and a Canadian crown in the past three years, they will be hard pressed to knock off the powerhouse Brandon Wheat Kings in their first-round Eastern Conference series.

"It's been a different experience this year for our team," said Edmonton coach Steve Hamilton. "We're certainly going through a transition as an organization."

The Oil Kings are seeking their fourth-consecutive WHL finals berth and third Memorial Cup trip in four years.

"I don't think we carry the burden of the pressure that we've had over the last few years," said Hamilton. "We're certainly heavy underdogs by most people's expectations."

Edmonton had to settle for



Aaron Irving and the Edmonton Oil Kings kick off the playoffs in Brandon against the Wheat Kings on Thursday.

DEREK LEUNG/GETTY IMAGES



Being the underdog doesn't mean you have no chance.

Oil Kings coach Steve Hamilton

cast expectations "down the road" as they did while posting three straight 50-win campaigns under Derek Laxdal, who now coaches the American

Hockey League's Texas Stars.

Edmonton's new underdog role stems from the departure of stars Curtis Lazar, now with the NHL's Ottawa Senators,

Henrik Samuelsson and Griffin Reinhart, who are toiling in the AHL. But most of this season's Oil Kings also played for last year's dual-championship squad, and Brandon's last two post-seasons (2013-14 and 2011-12) ended with losses to Edmonton.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



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Canada wants to host World Cup

SOCCER

U.S. was last CONCACAF country to hold men's tourney

Canada will still be thinking World Cup once the women's showcase tournament ends July 5. The Canadian Soccer Association will then turn its attention to the 2026 men's World Cup.

The CSA has already gone on the record in declaring its interest in hosting the men's event, which last took place in CONCACAF, which covers North and Central America and the Caribbean, in 1994 in the U.S.

FIFA's executive committee has now gotten the ball rolling. The first set of documents asking for declarations of interest will go to the 209 member associations likely in June with a decision on the host country planned for the FIFA Congress in May 2017.

Is it Canada's turn?

"Our focus is on the women's World Cup and executing that because, if we don't execute that, it's not going to be a good segue into us looking to bid for 2026," CSA president Victor Montagliani said in an interview Wednesday.

"Once the women's World Cup is over then we'll start looking at 2026 and seeing what we need to do to put together a bid."

Preliminary discussion with various stakeholders have already taken place.

"Obviously there is interest there," Montagliani said.

Montagliani notes that Canada is the only G-8 nation not to host the World Cup. Come this summer, Canada will have hosted every CONCACAF championship and every FIFA event except for the world futsal, beach and

club championships and Confederations Cup.

Should Canada throw its hat in the ring, it will be a solo rather than joint bid, he said.

In the past, host countries have used eight to 10 stadiums, although Canada has taken note of 2022 host Qatar's plan to use just eight.

"I think eight's probably a good number," said Montagliani.

This summer's women's World Cup is being staged in six Canadian cities — Vancouver, Edmonton, Winnipeg, Montreal, Ottawa and Moncton. Toronto offers several options with the Rogers Centre and BMO Field, which is increasing in size through ongoing renovations with room for more temporary expansion. Montreal is another multi-venue possibility.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



I don't think, when push comes to shove, that finding eight venues is going to be a challenge.

CSA president Victor Montagliani

IN BRIEF

Cavaliers have little trouble taming Grizzlies

Kyrie Irving scored 24 points, Kevin Love added 22 points and 10 rebounds, and the Cleveland Cavaliers rolled to a 111-89 victory over the Memphis Grizzlies on Wednesday night.

LeBron James finished with 20 points and Timofey Mozgov added 14 for Cleveland, which won its fourth straight and eighth in its last nine. Cleveland shot 51 per cent and was 14 of 34 from three-point range.

The game was not in doubt after a big third quarter from the Cavaliers, who extended the lead to as many as 29 points.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Lakers need overtime to finish off T-Wolves

Jordan Clarkson hit two free throws with 0.3 seconds left in overtime to send the Los Angeles Lakers over the Minnesota Timberwolves, 101-99, on Wednesday night.

Clarkson scored eight points in overtime and finished with 20. The Lakers snapped a five-game road losing streak and won for the second time in three games.

Andrew Wiggins had 27 points for Minnesota.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



NBA RAPTORS GORED BY BULLS Bulls power forward Pau Gasol defends the basket against Raptors guard DeMar DeRozan at the Air Canada Centre on Wednesday night. Looking to clinch a playoff spot with a victory, the Raptors instead lost 116-103. They clinched their second-consecutive playoff berth later in the night, thanks the Boston Celtics' loss to Miami. DAVID COOPER/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

RECIPE Mid-East Chickpea Salad

EAT LIGHT AT HOME

Rose Reisman
rosereisman.com

@rosereisman



Ready in

Prep time: 15
Bake time: 5

This is a great and flavourful vegetarian dish. Chickpeas are loaded with protein and fibre and can reduce bad cholesterol, as well as help to keep your weight in control.

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 425 F. Cut the pita into four wedges, then slice horizontally to make eight wedges. Spray pita wedges with vegetable oil. Sprinkle with chili powder, salt and pepper. Place on a baking sheet and bake for 5 minutes, or just until lightly browned and crisp.

2. In a small bowl, mix mayonnaise, yogurt, sesame oil, soy sauce and tahini until smooth. Add a little water if too thick. Set aside.

3. On serving platter add chickpeas, tomatoes, cucumber, green onions, cilantro, tahini dressing, salt and pepper. Mix well and serve with pita crisps.

Ingredients

- 1 large whole wheat pita pocket
- 1/8th tsp chili powder
- Salt and pepper
- 1/3 cup low fat mayonnaise
- 3 tbsp low fat yogurt



- 4 tsp sesame oil
- 4 tsp soy sauce
- 1 tbsp tahini sauce
- 1 (15 oz) can chickpeas, drained and rinsed
- 2 cups cubed plum tomatoes, seeded
- 2 cups cubed English cucumber, skin on
- 2 green onions, chopped
- 1/3 cup chopped cilantro or mint

Nutrition per serving

- Calories 370
- Protein 12.9 g
- Carbohydrates 59.4 g
- Fibre 6.8 g
- Total fat 10.9 g
- Saturated fat 1.6 g
- Cholesterol 2.6 mg
- Sodium 724 mg

PHOTO: ROSE REISMAN

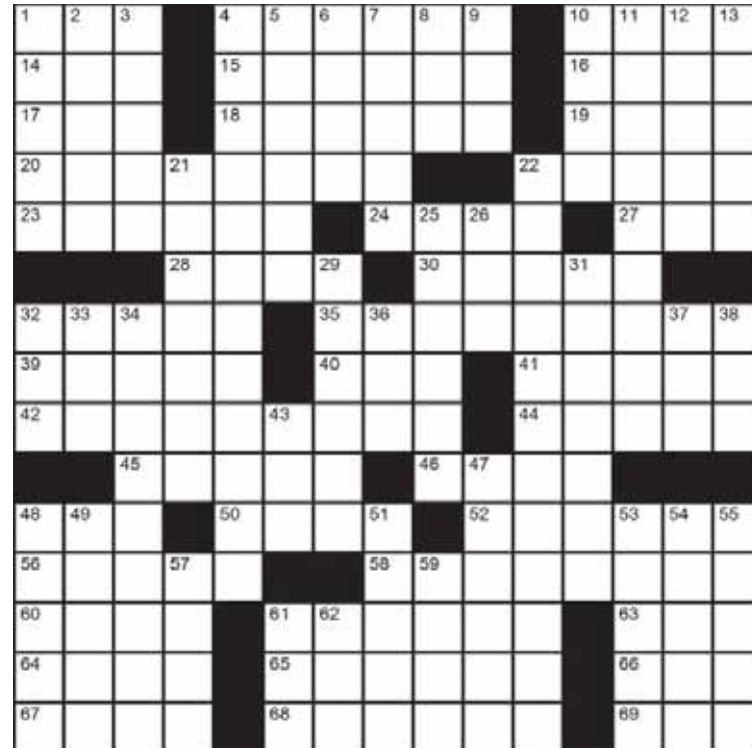
CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

ANSWERS ONLINE
metronews.ca

ACROSS

- Singer, ___. Sure!
- Trapped
- Concert blasters
- Spring mo.
- Time on the job
- Taste: French
- Scissor Sisters singer Ms. Matronic
- Canadian actress Ms. De Carlo
- ___ of Man
- Rotating part of the cutting-a-human-in-half magic trick: 2 wds.
- Leg part
- Stored, as farm fodder
- Shoreline surface sometimes
- Naja Haje
- Ms. Thurman's
- Countrified
- Trendy spot in Calgary, __ Loop
- Enormity
- Monastery boss
- 'Social' suffix
- Actor Alan
- Person of North America, e.g.: acr. + wd.
- Danish physicist Mr. Bohr (b.1885 - d.1962)
- ___ de menthe
- "Ac-Cent-___Ate the Positive"
- He said/___ said
- Pink: Spanish
- Lobster: French



- Pub orders
- Dart-thrower's target
- Guess Who's
- "Hang ___ Your Life"
- Media giant that owns Paramount Pictures
- Lass
- Shrek's species

- Playing loudly, as music
- Magician's name suffix
- Shortage
- Orchestra instruments
- Web feed syst. for updates

DOWN

- Collect
- Hawaiian-style veranda
- Messy fight
- ___ with Jeanne Beker, new on The Shopping Channel
- Reno's state
- Give ___ (Show approval)
- Old alphabet-ic symbols
- 'East' suffix
- Mr. Brun, cocktail expert on CBC's "Steven and Chris"
- Opposin'
- Jess ___ (Country songstress from Saskatchewan)
- Removes
- Very vertical

- Glassy spot in Lady Gaga's "Born This Way"
- Actor who stars as police officer Nick Barron on Bravo's "19-2": 2 wds.
- Montreal 'money'
- Religious job
- Poses, Tyra Banks style
- Glass-roofed building lobbies
- Egyptian ___ (Cat breed)
- Crunched muscles, for short
- ___ (Corner of Wellington/Simcoe office tower in Toronto)
- Dined
- "Rugrats" character
- Nnnnn
- Texter's point-of-view
- Prefix meaning 'Green'
- Soup-eater's need
- Door part
- Have ___ (Enjoy!)
- Norse sea god
- Gosling and Reynolds
- Eateries, e.g.
- Square-___, as some shoes
- Golden State sch. with a Berkeley campus
- Central-___
- "May ___ excused?" (Supper table request)

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

Aries March 21 - April 20
You will receive the kind of news that that could make you money. The only problem is you don't seem to realize how good it is or how lucrative it could be. Open your eyes.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
It is all coming right for you and over the next few days you will benefit in ways you cannot yet imagine. With Venus, your ruler, moving through your birth sign you cannot possibly lose, in love or in luck.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
Anyone who thinks you are superficial does not know you very well at all. Over the next few days you will be looking for answers to some of life's really big questions.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
This is a good day to chat with friends and plan social outings. But don't take up too many invitations between now and the weekend. You won't be popular if you have to cancel some of them.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
You are going to be thinking a lot about your work and your reputation over the next few days. But don't make any big decisions concerning your career because even better options will reveal themselves early next week.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
If someone says you should not be concerned about what is going on in your social circle you will go out of your way to find out more. What you discover will astound you.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
You have been worrying about your money situation for no good reason and over the next few days you will see solutions where before you saw only problems.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
You are conflicted whether to get involved in a feud that is not any of your business but which you know you could resolve if people would listen. Go on, take a chance.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
This is a good time to think of ways to reduce your daily chores and also to improve your health. You may not be able to make any major changes for two or three weeks but make plans now.

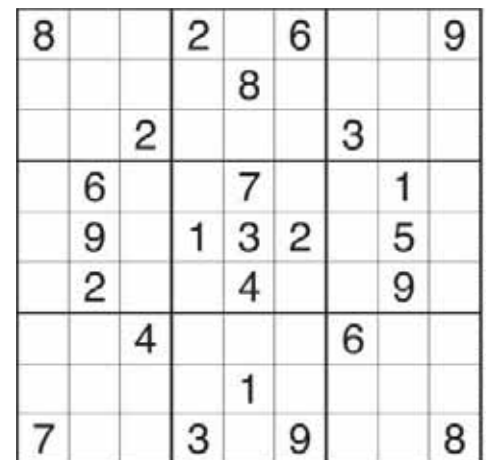
Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Your confidence is improving and it won't be long before your positive attitude brings positive results. People will sense your self-assurance and want to do things for you.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
You may like to pretend that you are self-sufficient and don't need assistance but you need to be honest with yourself today. If you don't get help with what is bothering you it will get worse.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
You will find it much easier now to express yourself and others will find it easier to understand what you are trying to say. The words will flow.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9



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